

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

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DEPT PASS D/IWY MARCY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN, OCON, OTRA, UN, AORG

SUBJ: WCIWY--MEXICAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNS OVER HOW TO HANDLE
NON-OFFICIAL DELEGATES TO WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

1. USUN HAS OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM MILDRED
PERSINGER, HEAD OF WCIWY TRIBUNE OFFICE IN NY, RELATING TO
CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES, REFTEL.

2. RE ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF NON-OFFICIAL DELS, PERSINGER
STATES THAT INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO HER OFFICE DOES NOT
SUPPORT MEXICAN FEARS OF THOUSANDS OF UNOFFICIAL WCIWY
PARTICIPANTS, ALTHOUGH SHE RECOGNIZES THAT SHE DOES NOT
HAVE WHOLE STORY AND GOM MAY KNOW MORE THAN SHE DOES.
PERSINGER BELIEVES TRAVEL AGENT ADS APPEARING IN
LOS ANGELES PAPERS OFFERING ROUND-TRIP EXCURSIONS
TO MEXICO CITY AND PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE ARE
PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR HEIGHTNED MEXICAN CONCERN. WCIWY
TRIBUTE HAS RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY 350 INQUIRIES FROM
REPS OF NGOS AND INDIVIDUALS AND HAS SENT THEM BACK
RESERVATION FORMS. WHEN TRIBUNE OFFICE RECEIVES COM-
PLETED RESERVATION FORMS, IT WILL BE IN BETTER POSITION TO JUDGE
HOW MANY PEOPLE 350 INQUIRIES ACTUALLY REPRESENTS. IF NECESSARY,
TRIBUNE IS PREPARED TO SEND BACK LETTERS TELLING NGOS THAT
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THERE IS NOT SIFFICIENT ROOM TO ACCOMMODATE MORE PEOPLE.

3. PERSINGER AGREES THAT MANY INDIVIDUALS AND NGOS THAT ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND ENTIRELY ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE MAY NOT KNOW OF EXISTENCE OF NGO TRIBUNE OFFICE AND ARE HANDLING OWN PLANE TRAVEL AND RESERVATIONS IN MEXICO CITY. SHE HAS NO FIX ON HOW MANY PEOPLE MIGHT BE COMING UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. RE PARA 5(B) REFTEL, NGO TRIBUTE HAS PREPARED LIST OF TOPICS WHICH WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR NGO MEETINGS AND HAS OUTLINED WHOLE PROGRAM FOR TRIBUTE. RE PARA 5(C) NGO TRIBUNE ALSO HAS LIST OF INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD SERVE AS RESOURCE PEOPLE, ALTHOUGH HAS SO FAR RECEIVED ONLY FEW ACCEPTANCES.

5. PERSINGER STATES THAT HER OFFICE HAS RECENTLY BEEN IN ALMOST DAILY TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH AIDA GONZALEZ, DEPUTY TO GONZALEZ GALVEZ MENTIONED REFTEL. USUN THEREFORE ASSUMES THAT FOREGOING INFORMATION IS KNOWN TO GALVEZ AND THAT IT HAS PARTIALLY ALLAYED HIS FEARS.

6. PERSINGER, WHOSE WORK IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESSFUL NGO PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE, HAS REQUESTED THAT USUN ASK DEPT WHETHER USG CAN PROVIDE FUNDS AND STAFF TO SET UP A RECEPTION CENTER SPECIFICALLY FOR AMERICANS, WHETHER INVITED OR PARTICIPATING ON THEIR OWN. SHE ENVISAGES SUCH A CENTER AS CONSISTING OF ROOM IN CENTRALLY LOCATED HOTEL LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE MEETING OF ABOUT 200 PEOPLE, WITH TELEPHONES, DUPLICATING MACHINE AND ONE OR TWO PEOPLE TO STAFF IT.

7. COMMENT: USUN RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTIES THAT USG-FUNDED RECEPTION CENTER MIGHT CREATE, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SUGGESTIONS DEPT MIGHT HAVE AS TO HOW THIS NEED MIGHT BE MET IN SOME OTHER WAY.

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